



## LINCOLN GROVE INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND,

In 2021, Chicopee Community Development obtained CBDG funds to build an inclusive playground in the park. The population to be served included children ages 6 mos to 12 years, with an emphasis on the pre-school age children who attended a nearby Headstart Program.

Ramped solutions to serve mobility impaired users offered a small return for the spatial and monetary expense. Instead, an alternate strategy utilized was to provide a significant number of ground level elements with clear visual and auditory connection to children using upper level elements, with plenty of wheelchair space. Play nets were incorporated into the lower level of higher structures.

In general, play elements were chosen to satisfy a variety of needs--climbing equipment of varying difficulty, nooks and crannies, sensory play in the form of musical instruments, a pictorial communication board, spinning, rocking and swinging elements.

The playground contains equipment focused on 6-12 mos, 2-4 years, 4-5 years and 5-12 years.







## DRAKE PLAYGROUND, WALTHAM, MA

Drake playground is a 2 acre park serving the surrounding neighborhood and the adjacent elementary school. The park is situated in a floodplain and a seasonally high water table prevented full use of the park during wet seasons. Cut and fill were balanced to allow raising of the playground grade while maintaining flood storage volume.

The scope of improvements was defined through meetings with the neighborhood, school staff and students.

The play area was enlarged. A seat wall across the back of the playground with space for wheelchairs, provides a passive activity area for children to gather during the busy recess and provides seating for teachers and parents.







## POND END TOT LOT, WALTHAM, MA

Pond End Tot Lot is a small neighborhood park. The improvements included a climbing structure for 5-12 year olds, a smaller structure for 2-5 years olds, and several pieces appropriate for children under 2.

